

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, D/M

DATE: 9 Sept 58

FROM : Chief, M/Ch

SUBJECT: Comment on Proposal to Delete Documentation from ERA  
Published Reports

1. There are certain actual and potential disadvantages in not including source references, for example:

a. Maintaining separate lists of source references and perhaps a clean draft of each report in the Branch and in St/PB would be somewhat cumbersome.

b. Reports probably would have to be somewhat more verbose in the sense that intelligence information would have to be related to its source in the text of the report more often than at present in order to avoid losing the confidence of the reader.

c. Unless strict supervision of the documentation process were exercised, careless research might be encouraged.

2. After due consideration, however, I feel that the disadvantages associated with the adoption of this procedure are not serious. I would, therefore, recommend adoption of the new procedure provided, of course, that the savings of time and expense will be substantial as indicated.

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